



*Forehoe & Henstead Rural District Council*



# THE ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(Irene B. M. Green, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.)

the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

(G. A. J. Browne, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.)

and the

ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR

(W. A. Jones, M.I.S.E., M.R.S.H.)

for

## 1964.

S T A F F

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
Irene B. M. Green, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
Geoffrey A. J. Browne, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

DEPUTY CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
Bertie G. B. South, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

B. M. Baker, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.  
L. Skelton, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H. (To June, 1964)  
R. Stevenson, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.  
R. Secker, (Student Public Health Inspector)  
D. Jonas, (Meat Inspector)

ENGINEER & SURVEYOR  
William A. Jones, A.M.I.S.E., M.R.S.H.

DEPUTY ENGINEER & SURVEYOR  
Frederick J. Adds, A.M.I.S.E., M.R.S.H.

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T H E      A N N U A L      R E P O R T

O F   T H E

M E D I C A L   O F F I C E R   O F   H E A L T H  
(Irene B.M. Green, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.)

F O R   T H E

R U R A L   D I S T R I C T   O F   F O R E H O E   A N D   H E N S T E A D

N O R F O L K

For the year ended 31st. December, 1964

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1964.

G E N E R A L   S T A T I S T I C S

				<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>
Area (in acres)	...	...	...	69,939	69,939
Resident mid-year population, (as estimated by Registrar General)	...	...	...	28,550	28,090
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	9,142	8,914
Rateable value	...	...	...	£669,453	£615,777
Sum represented by penny rate	...	...	...	£2,833	£2,487

The estimated mid-year population was 28,550 compared with 28,090 in 1963. The excess of births over deaths was 136 so it would appear that there has been an influx of about 324 new residents into the district during the year. The number of inhabited houses increased by 228 to 9,142.

# WEATHER CONDITIONS

I am again indebted to the Norfolk Agricultural Station for the following account of the weather in 1964:-

Over the year, the rainfall total was 4" less than average and sunshine was also lacking. In these respects the year was similar to 1963, but in other ways it was quite different. The autumn and winter were comparatively mild and the summer months, except for June and part of August, were particularly pleasant for holidaymakers and reasonably satisfactory for agriculture.

## VITAL STATISTICS

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>				<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	...	...	...	258	228	486
Illegitimate	...	...	...	13	13	26
				—	—	—
				271	241	512
				—	—	—

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population	...	...	...	17.9
Birth rate adjusted for age and sex	...	...	...	18.2
Birth rate per 1,000 population (England & Wales)	...	...	...	18.4

<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>				<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	...	...	...	3	3	6
Illegitimate	...	...	...	-	-	-
				—	—	—
				3	3	6
				—	—	—

Rate per 1,000 live and still births	...	...	...	11.5
Rate per 1,000 live and still births (England & Wales)	...	...	...	16.3

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>DEATHS</u>	188	188	376
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population	...	...	13.1
Death rate adjusted for age and sex	...	...	9.1
Death rate per 1,000 population (England & Wales)	...	...	11.3

Infant Mortality - Deaths of Infants under one year of age.

				<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	...	...	...	7	2	9
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	-	1
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
				8	2	10
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Additional Statistics

				<u>Forehoe &amp; Henstead</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales</u>
Infant Mortality rate (infant deaths under one year per 1,000 live births)	...			19.5	20.0
Neonatal Mortality rate (infant deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births)	...	...		13.6	13.8
Legitimate Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...		18.5	- -
Illegitimate Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...		38.4	- -
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	...	...		5.0%	7.2%
Maternal deaths (deaths ascribed to pregnancy, childbirth and abortion)	...			- -	- -
Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	...	...		- -	- -
Perinatal Mortality	...	...		23.1	28.1

These tables show that the district is gaining by birth at a greater rate than last year and nearly up to the national figure. It is losing by death at a higher rate than in 1963 but at a lower rate than in England and Wales.

The illegitimacy rate was down to 5% of all live births, compared with figures of 6.4% last year and 7.2% for England and Wales.

The infant mortality rate was 19.5, compared with 26.4 in 1963 and a national figure of 20.0. There were no maternal deaths associated with childbirth and the perinatal mortality rate was much lower than last year, 23.1 compared with 51.3 in 1963 and 28.1 in England and Wales.

Causes of Infant Deaths

There were 10 infant deaths under the age of 1 year, all but 3 occurring under the age of 4 weeks, 4 of these on the first day. This was 2 less than in 1963 and the causes were as follows:-



### Probably Inevitable

Prematurity	-	3	at 45 minutes, 5 hours, 2 days, respectively.
Congenital Defects	-	3	Diaphragmatic hernia at 5 hours. Heart defect at 5 days. Hydrocephalus at 4 months.

### Preventable

Infection	-	2	Pneumonia at 3 months. Pneumonia - age unknown - over 4 weeks.
Other avoidable factors	-	2	Erythroblastosis Rh.- incompatibility aged 30 minutes. Hypothermia - aged 1 week.

The causes of 6 of these infant deaths were prematurity and congenital defects, conditions not yet amenable to preventive measures but in at least 4 cases, death should have been preventable. Pneumonia is an infectious disease and small infants need to be protected against contact with people suffering from colds and coughs, specially in winter weather. The Rhesus-negative incompatibility cases are usually saved nowadays by supervision of the pregnancy, following routine tests of the mother's blood, with complete blood transfusion at birth if the condition of the infant warrants it.

Hypothermia, or excessive drop in temperature, is a wholly avoidable condition if the infant is kept in a reasonably warm atmosphere. Icy bedrooms in wintry weather are as lethal to the very young as they are to the very old.

Although the infant mortality rate was lower than last year and below the national figure, it is to be regretted that nearly half these infants could possibly have been saved with more adequate care.

### Premature Births

Total number of premature births	...	...	22
Total number of premature stillbirths		...	4
Total number of deaths due to prematurity		...	3

In 22 cases of infants born prematurely, there were only 3 deaths from this cause and there were 4 premature stillbirths. This is a very good survival rate for these small infants whose hold on life is always tenuous. Modern methods of special care have been very effective in the district over the year.

## Deaths between 1 and 40 Years (Life Shorteners)

There were 9 deaths registered of persons in this age group, 7 of them males, compared with a total of 8 in 1963. The causes of these premature deaths were as follows:-

Accidents	5 (Road)	Males 16, 17, 19, 38, 40 (associated with heart disease)
Heart	1	Female 35, Myocardial degeneration.
Malignant	2	Female 34 - breast Male 34 - seminoma
Progressive Muscular disease	1	Male 19, Muscular dystrophy with pancreatitis.

There was no death registered between the ages of 1 year and 16 years. Accidents have been specially fatal in this age group during the year, 5 men, 3 in their teens, have been killed on the roads. 2 were involved in motor car accidents and 3 were motor cyclists.

The other 4 deaths were from chronic incurable disease, all in their 30's, except for the boy with muscular dystrophy who was aged 19.

## CAUSES OF DEATH (Registrar General)

			<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	1	-	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	...	...	1	-	1
Diphtheria	...	...	-	-	-
Whooping cough	...	...	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	...	...	-	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	-	-	-
Measles	...	...	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases...			-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm of stomach	...	...	5	5	10
Malignant neoplasm of lung or bronchus ..			15	1	16
Malignant neoplasm of breast	...	...	-	6	6
Malignant neoplasm of uterus	...	...	-	3	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms			20	12	32
Leukaemia and aleukaemia	...	...	1	-	1
Diabetes	...	...	-	3	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...		18	26	44
Coronary disease, angina	...	...	29	22	51
Hypertension with heart disease		...	1	4	5
Other heart diseases	...	...	30	47	77
Other circulatory disease	...	...	11	21	32
Influenza	...	...	-	-	-
Pneumonia	...	...	16	17	33
Bronchitis	...	...	5	3	8
Other diseases of respiratory system	...		-	-	-
C/Forward :			153	170	323

				<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Brought Forward :-				153	170	323
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	2	1	3
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	1	-	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	-	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	4	-	4
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	...	...	...	2	-	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	15	10	25
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	7	1	8
Suicide	...	...	...	3	5	8
Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	1	-	1
All other accidents	...	...	...	-	-	-
			Totals	: 188	188	376

#### MALIGNANT DISEASE (INCLUDING CANCER)

All forms of malignant disease caused 68 deaths with 16 from cancer of the lung, compared with 46 and 8 from lung cancer in 1963. The ages at which lung cancer was fatal are given below:-

<u>Ages:</u>	<u>45-54</u>	<u>55-64</u>	<u>65-74</u>	<u>75+</u>	<u>Total</u>
	3	4	6	3	16

This year, 7 out of the 16 lung cancer deaths occurred during working life and 3 of these were under the age of 55.

The following table gives a picture of the deaths from this avoidable cause during the last 7 years. The figures in brackets give the numbers of those who died under the age of 65:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>Total</u>
Males	15(6)	7(5)	6(2)	11(6)	5(3)	9(8)	8(4)	61(34)
Females	1(1)	1(-)	3(-)	-(-)	2(-)	-(-)	3(-)	10(1)
	16(7)	8(5)	9(2)	11(6)	7(3)	9(8)	11(4)	71(35)

These figures give a grim picture of the toll taken by a largely avoidable fatal disease, lung cancer, particularly in men of working age. Of 61 male deaths from this cause, 34 occurred under the age of 65 and many of these in the early 50's. The association of heavy smoking and cancer of the lung is now proved beyond all possible doubt and this casualty list should surely be a warning to those who are deliberately risking a serious shortening of their lives by continuing this dangerous habit.



Deaths from All Causes in Age Groups

Age :	Infants	Pre-	School	Working Life				Pensionable Age		
	Under 1	School	Age	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+
Totals:	10	-	-	4	2	4	20	36	72	228

It will be seen that about 80% of all deaths occurred over the age of 65 and 60% over the age of 75. A total of 66 deaths were registered during working life, compared with 89 in 1963 and 36 of these were in the 55-64 age group.

This clearly demonstrates how more people are living longer each year, with certain tragic exceptions such as premature deaths from road accidents, cancer of the lung, both avoidable causes of death, and coronary disease, also associated with heavy smoking habits.

The commonest cause of death was heart and circulatory disease (209), coronary heart disease (51). Ten of the fatal coronaries occurred under 65 and one of these in the late 40's.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Disease	N/K	0-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65+	Total
Scarlet fever	-	-	7	5	-	-	-	-	-	12
Whooping cough	-	3	2	8	3	-	2	-	-	18
Measles	2	24	32	74	29	1	3	-	-	165
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	5	4	20
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	5
Food poisoning	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	3
Infective hepatitis	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	1	4
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Totals :	5	31	42	91	33	5	8	6	10	231

There were 231 cases of notifiable infectious disease (excluding tuberculosis) during 1964 compared with 629 in 1963. The main reason for this big decrease was the smaller incidence of measles, 165 cases compared with 504 last year but there was also a great reduction in the number of cases of scarlet fever, dysentery and pneumonia. The only disease which was more prevalent was whooping cough, 18 cases being notified compared with 9 in 1963.

## Measles

The 1963 measles epidemic carried over into the January and February of 1964 but had subsided by March. There was a smaller increase of cases in May and June but from the beginning of August there were no further notifications to the end of the year. The majority of cases occurred in early school life with 56 notified at pre-school age and 29 between 10 and 14. There were 4 adult cases, 3 of them over 25. No complications were reported and there were no deaths.

## Scarlet fever

Scarlet fever was much less prevalent, possibly due to the more open winter with less need to be herded indoors for long periods. There was a total of 12 cases compared with 46 in 1963. All the patients were between the ages of 3 and 9. No complications were reported and the usual careful survey of family contacts was carried out.

In this district, streptococcal infection is treated with great respect with school and family contact investigations where appropriate. Long term damage to heart and kidney is commoner than some pundits assume and leads to chronic ill health in some cases and even to the shortening of life's average span. With all our modern anti-biotics, it is still possible for this dangerous germ to do great harm often quite insidiously and after what appears to have been a rather mild illness. I should like to see all streptococcal infection made notifiable, not only scarlet fever.

## Whooping cough

There were twice as many cases of whooping cough notified during the year compared with 1963. Again more cases were of school age, 3 being over 10 years old and 2 adults suffered attacks. This increased incidence was mainly due to a large outbreak at Surlingham School during the winter term. The figures in the table refer to notified cases and several cases of this infection have obviously not been notified because of the absence of a 'whoop'. In the following account of the investigation into the Surlingham epidemic, those suffering from severe coughs have been assumed to have had whooping cough.

## Outbreak at Surlingham School

There was a large outbreak of epidemic cough at Surlingham School beginning at the end of January and continuing until March 16th. Out of a total of 45 children on the books, at least 14 definite cases occurred with 16 more sufferers from severe cough without a 'whoop', presumed to be forms of the disease modified by previous vaccination. In addition, 7 children had a slight cough not thought to be mild whooping cough and only 8 were without any cough symptoms whatever.

This epidemic in a small controlled group seemed to offer a good opportunity for investigation into the efficacy of vaccination and a possible assessment of the length of immunity following a course of injections. The following table gives the findings of this investigation:-

Total No. of children on books	...	...	45	
No. of children with whooping cough	...	...	14	) Total 30
No. of children with severe cough	...	...	16	
No. of children with slight cough	...	...	7	) Total 15
No. of children with no cough	...	...	8	

#### Vaccinal State of Children

No. of children vaccinated	...	...	33	
No. of children not vaccinated	...	...	12	(3 of these had whooping cough previously)
No. of children unprotected by vaccination or previous attack	...	...	9	

#### Attack Experience of the Vaccinated with Year of Treatment

Total Number - 33

<u>Year of Vaccination</u>	<u>No. of Children</u>	<u>Whooping Cough</u>	<u>Severe Cough</u>	<u>Slight Cough</u>	<u>Nil</u>
1960	2	1	1	-	-
1959	7	2	3	2	-
1958	8	3	3	-	2
1957	3	-	2	-	1
1956	7	-	5	1	1
1955	3	-	2	-	1
1954	2	-	1	1	-
1953	1	-	-	-	1
		23		10	

#### Attack Experience of the Unprotected Children - 9

<u>Whooping Cough</u>	<u>Severe Cough</u>	<u>Slight Cough</u>	<u>Nil</u>	<u>Total</u>
2	5	1	1	9
7		2		9





Vaccines have been much improved in recent years and it may be in 1960 and the years before the actual immunising agent was at fault. It will be interesting to watch the incidence in subsequent years as the new vaccines begin to show their effect.

### Sequalae of Epidemic

In view of the heavy incidence of severe cough in this school community, a follow up survey was made during the next term. When the epidemic had subsided, chest examinations were carried out on all who had been ill. Nearly all had recovered completely but 2 children with persistent physical signs in their chests and some general debility were referred to their own doctors and one of these was afterwards seen at the Chest Clinic.

At the next routine medical inspection, all the cases were found to have made a complete recovery.

### Pneumonia

Many fewer cases of pneumonia were notified due no doubt to a milder winter and there was less respiratory disease and influenza. More children and young persons suffered attacks than usual, but apart from 2 infant deaths from this cause, all the deaths occurred in older patients, the majority being over 75.

### Diphtheria

### Poliomyelitis

No cases of either of these diseases occurred during the year or for many years now.

### Infectious Gastro-Enteritis

Under this heading are included all forms of transmissible bowel infection, dysentery, food poisoning, virus vomiting and the enteric group of diseases.

### Food Poisoning

Three cases of food poisoning were notified during the year, a child of 18 months, and 2 adults over 25. In addition to these, there were 4 cases associated with an outbreak in Norwich. After notification by the City Medical Officer of Health, 11 suspected cases were investigated but only 4 of them were found to be still infectious. The organism was salmonella typhimurium.

## Dysentery

Only one case of dysentery was notified compared with 25 in 1963. This was a young adult and the source of the infection was never determined.

## Virus Vomiting Outbreaks

During the year, there were many small outbreaks of sickness and diarrhoea amongst the schools in the district. All were shortlived with mild symptoms and a small attack rate. Each reported incident was followed up promptly and specimens collected where appropriate. In no case was a bacterial agent found. The following schools were affected:-

<u>School</u>	<u>No. on Books</u>	<u>No. Affected</u>	<u>Month</u>
Trowse	52	25	March
Wicklewood	42	9	June
Poringland	207	15	October
Costessey Infants	270	6	"
Stoke Holy Cross	66	12	"
Cringleford	82	25	"
Bawburgh	66	13	"
Rockland St. Mary	31	7	November
		<hr/> 112 <hr/>	

In each case, the opportunity was taken to inspect toilets, washing facilities, towels and the availability of hot water; also the canteen, food storage and hand washing arrangements for the kitchen staff. Any deficiencies were reported to the Norfolk Education Committee.

Conditions are very much improved in all these types of provision and it should now be possible for all children to be trained while at school in good hand-washing habits after using the closet and before eating or handling food.

## Typhoid and Paratyphoid

No case of enteric disease was notified during the year.

## T U B E R C U L O S I S

The following table gives the ages and sex incidence of new cases and deaths during the year:-

<u>Age Groups</u>	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
16 - 25	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
36 - 45	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
46 - 55	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Over 65	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Totals :	3	-	1	-	1	-	-	-

Cases on Register at December 31st. 1964 :-

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>
Male ...	57	53	6	5	63	58
Female ...	39	37	8	8	47	45
Totals :	96	90	14	13	110	103

There were 110 cases remaining on the Register at the end of the year, 7 more than last year. 4 new cases were notified, 3 male pulmonary cases aged 25, 40 and 50 and 1 female non-pulmonary case over 65. Only one death was registered from this cause, a male in the 45-55 age group, a pulmonary case. There were no deaths from the non-pulmonary type of the disease.

### Prevention

#### B.C.G. Vaccination in Schools

Total number eligible	:	514		
Number Tested	:	354	Acceptance Rate :	68.8%
" Positive	:	54	Rate Positive :	15.2%
" Vaccinated	:	286		

The acceptance rate was not so high this year, 68.8% compared with 70% in 1963, but the percentage positive was lower 15.2% compared with 20.7% last year. These results of Heaf Testing show that children have had less chance of contact with a case of tuberculosis (or raw tuberculous milk) than in previous years and it is anticipated that this rate will continue to decline.



## MASS RADIOGRAPHY UNIT

The Mass Radiography Unit did not hold any public sessions in this district during the year.

## GENERAL COMMENT ON TUBERCULOSIS

Although new cases continue to be discovered, chiefly by means of routine chest x-ray examinations, their numbers are steadily declining and in this country, tuberculosis can now no longer be considered as one of the major causes of illness and death.

## GENERAL SICKNESS

### Weekly Sickness Claims

The weekly sickness claims in the second week of January rose to over double the number in the previous week, due to the seasonal epidemic of respiratory disease. They fell fairly rapidly at first but remained above the average for the time of year until the end of March. There was a further slight peak at the beginning of April, after which the figures fell to, and remained about, the average until another gradual rise occurred reaching a maximum in November.

Many fewer deaths from respiratory disease occurred during the year, 41 compared with 54 in 1963, and 30 of these were over the age of 75.

## R O A D        A C C I D E N T S

Through the courtesy of the Chief Constable of Norfolk, I am again able to give the following information about road accidents causing injury which have happened in the district during 1964. These figures refer solely to accidents occurring on the roads of the district and those injured were not necessarily residents but may have been in transit:-

	<u>Fatal</u>		<u>Serious</u>		<u>Slight</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>
Drivers	-	2	18	22	36	39	54	63
Passengers	-	-	15	18	45	52	60	70
Motor Cyclists	2	2	12	21	24	19	38	42
Pillion Passengers	-	1	1	8	6	6	7	15
Pedal Cyclists	-	1	14	15	15	17	29	33
Pedestrians	-	-	7	3	8	7	15	10
Totals :	2	6	67	87	134	140	203	233

The total figure for accidents causing injury has fallen this year and is now below those for 1963 and 1962. All degrees of injury were less numerous, with only 2 deaths compared with 6 last year, 67 serious injuries compared with 87 and 6 fewer slightly injured. Both the fatalities concerned motor cyclists.



Each type of road user had a better experience except for pedestrians, 15 of whom were injured compared with 10 in 1963. Many more of them were seriously hurt and one more with slight injuries.

### Children's Accidents

Separate figures for accidents to children under 15 are given below:-

	<u>Fatal</u>		<u>Serious</u>		<u>Slight</u>		<u>Total of Injured Children</u>	
	<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>
<u>Children under 15</u>								
(a) Pedestrians -	-	-	1	-	2	5	11	16
(b) Cyclists -	-	-	1	3	7	8		

There was a reduction of 5 in the number of children injured on the road, 3 were cyclists and 8 on foot. Fortunately, there were only 2 seriously hurt and again this year no child was killed.

### FOOD & DRUGS ACTS 1938 - 1955

#### MILK & DAIRIES REGULATIONS

##### Brucella Abortus

No milk samples were reported as positive to brucella abortus during the year so no action was needed under the Milk & Dairies Regulations.

However, a case of undulant fever occurred and this led to the investigation of the milk supply of the patient which was from a "family" cow in this district and a producer-retailer of raw milk in another district. The "family" cow was proved to be giving milk not infected with brucella abortus, but information received from the neighbouring district showed that the untreated milk in their area was infected and so was presumed to be the cause of the human illness.

Cases of undulant fever will continue to occur and sometimes remain undiagnosed, until (a) a brucellosis eradication programme is put into operation and (b) pasteurisation becomes compulsory for all milk sold for human consumption.

##### Penicillin in Milk

Complaints have been received about severe reactions to penicillin in milk by people who are allergic to this anti-biotic. Now that so much penicillin is used by farmers for bovine infections, specially mastitis, it is essential that milk likely to contain even small amounts should be discarded. Although harmless to the majority of people, its

ingestion by those allergic to it can cause very acute and unpleasant reactions, sometimes laying them off work for 2 or 3 days.

#### ANTHRAX ORDER, 1938

Only one notification was received under the Anthrax Order and this concerned the knacker's vehicle in which a confirmed case of anthrax was transported.

The animal died in another district and was conveyed to its destination in another area, but the vehicle used was owned by a knacker working in Forehoe and Henstead.

#### H O U S I N G

<u>Waiting List</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>
No. of applicants at 31st. December, 1964 ...	335	405

#### Analysis of Waiting List

Small Unit Families ... ..	273	335
Large Unit Families ... ..	62	70

#### Note:

Small Unit Families are those suitable for 1 or 2 bedroomed dwellings and consist largely of married couples with 1 child or 2 children of the same sex. Large Unit Families mainly represent those with more than 2 children over the age of 8 of opposite sex.

Agricultural workers ... ..	51	69
Others ... ..	284	336

#### Local Authority Houses

#### Position at 31st. December, 1964

Pre-war ... ..	859	849
Post-war ... ..	1,140	1,087
	<u>1,999</u>	<u>1,936</u>

## New Building

### Houses erected during 1964

By Council	...	...	54
By Private Building	...	...	305
			<hr/>
			359
			<hr/>

### Under construction at end of 1964

By Council	...	...	64
By Private Building	...	...	220
			<hr/>
			284
			<hr/>

### Private Building during last 5 years

<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1960</u>
305	322	205	237	175

The number of applicants on the Council's waiting list for houses has fallen from 405 in 1963 to 335 in 1964. The Council built 54 new dwellings during the year and a further 64 were under construction at the end of December.

There were 48 casual vacancies and these, added to 54 newly built dwellings enabled 102 families to be re-housed by the Council during the year, 23 of these being Slum Clearance cases.

Private building continued to provide a large number of new houses, though fewer than the peak year 1963, 305 being built in 1964 compared with 322 in 1963, and 205 in 1962. There were a further 220 under construction at the end of the year.

At the end of 1964, the Council owned 1,999 dwellings, 859 pre-war and 1,140 post-war and these represented 22% of all the inhabited houses in the district.

## SLUM CLEARANCE

<u>Condemned Properties</u>		<u>Occupied</u>	<u>Vacant</u>
Properties still standing	...	151	69
Properties demolished	...	188	82
Demolition Orders revoked	...	16	
New Demolition Orders made 1964..		19	

<u>Undertakings</u>		<u>Occupied</u>	<u>Vacant</u>
Properties still standing	... 112	63	49
Properties demolished	... 22		
Undertakings revoked	... 10		
New Undertakings not to re-let			
1964	... 8		

### Improvement to Existing Property

#### Council Dwellings

Further progress was made in the modernisation of Council dwellings and the following work was carried out during the year:-

<u>Complete Amenities</u> :	Costessey	30
	Cringleford	12
	Lt. Melton	2
		<hr/>
		44
		<hr/>

Work is in progress to provide complete amenities in the following parishes:-

Costessey	32
Hethersett	16
	<hr/>
	48
	<hr/>

### Private Houses (Improvement Grants)

The following Improvement Grants, "Discretionary" and "Standard" were made during the year:-

Discretionary grants	:	37	(affecting 44 units - £14,434)
Standard grants	:	45	(affecting 48 units - £7,957)

### General Housing Situation

In 1964, twice as many Council dwellings were built than in 1963 and more were under construction at the end of the year. Private building slowed down a little but was still only just below the peak of 1963, while improvement grants to private owners amounted to about the same as last year.



It is specially gratifying to note that the Council's programme for providing complete amenities is progressing so well. There is no single factor calculated to encourage young people to remain in rural areas that is more important than adequate housing with all modern conveniences.

One rather disquieting aspect of the development of new housing estates for private ownership is that some subsoils are unsuitable for cesspools and soakaways and planning permission for development of any site is not at the moment dependent on the immediate availability of main drainage.

In many cases, there is no trouble but where there are pockets of hard clay, problems of very frequent cesspool emptying arise and bear hardly on the unsuspecting new house owner who had not bargained for this additional expense. It would seem wiser for planning permission to be held up until main drainage was available and for the Council to press on with its sewerage schemes with the minimum of delay.

### The Town Dweller in the Country

The problem of cesspool emptying is only one aspect of country living that tends to baffle the incoming "townee". Having lived under urban conditions of main drainage, well-paved streets, very frequent emptying of dustbins and freedom from offensive odours other than diesel and petrol fumes, he may find country living less acceptable than he had expected.

He often fails to discover that he has a cesspool until it overflows or the drains refuse to work and then he expects an immediate free emptying by the local authority. He finds it incomprehensible that he should have to arrange and pay for a service which he had taken for granted in the town.

Although the reason for going to the country was no doubt to live amongst green fields, he fails to realise that such terrain is the farmer's workshop in which the use of manure of various degrees of pungency, the boiling of pig swill and the making of silage are normal activities. If you buy a piece of land next door to pig stys, you are not really in a position to object to the smell. Mushroom cultivation and broiler houses are other country activities which are objectionable to the sensitive town nose and it seems a pity that this aspect of rural living cannot be pointed out to intending plot buyers before they commit themselves to purchase them.

Dustbin emptying is another bone of contention and the ex-townee's container tends to fill more quickly than that of the countryman. Unless he is a gardener, he will not have heard of a compost heap and the use to which decaying vegetable matter can be put. Burying refuse and burning paper would greatly reduce the dustbin contents and with his usually larger amount of space, both should be possible.

It would seem that newcomers could really do with a course of instruction in the hygienic management of their lives in the country. A leaflet pointing out the services available and giving advice on these various problems might profitably be devised and distributed by the local authority, to all new ratepayers and if this entailed a little preaching to the converted, it would surely be forgiven.

## R O Y A L      N O R F O L K      S H O W

The usual procedure in regard to the notification of standholders about Food Hygiene, Refuse Disposal and other services was carried out again this year.

On the whole, conditions were satisfactory, although the standards of some caterers were not as high as we should have wished. Samples of food were taken at random from various places and the bacteriological results suggested that some food had been handled with inadequate care. However, no case of illness which could have been caused by bad food hygiene was reported during the Show.

Improved sanitary facilities have been provided and there is now much more water closet accommodation. Some shortcomings were noted due to inadequate supervision and these have been reported to the Show Committee.

Apart from these minor deficiencies, the general standard of hygiene was good and the Royal Norfolk Show could now serve as a good example of how such events should be run. The continued willing co-operation of the Director, Secretary and Show Committee is a pleasure to record.

## W A T E R      S U P P L Y

A full account of the water supply position in the district will be found in the Report of the Surveyor and Water Engineer.

My only comment is that the water supply of the district is still deficient in its fluoride content and no steps were taken during the year by the water undertakers to remedy this deficiency. Dental care, therefore, continues to be 60% more prevalent than it needs to be.

## S E W E R A G E

An account of recent sewerage schemes and the general position in regard to main drainage will be found in the Engineer and Surveyor's Report.

I should like to repeat the remarks I made in connection with housing, that large private development should not be given planning permission until main drainage is available. With the continued large volume of private building, it is imperative that sewerage schemes be expedited, so that the present serious troubles with cesspool drainage may be avoided in future.

## C O N F E R E N C E S

I attended the following Conferences on behalf of the Council:-

- (1) Pest Control and the Local Authority in Norwich - February
- (2) Water Safety Conference in Norwich - February
- (3) Royal Society of Health Congress in Torquay - April
- (4) Royal Institute of Public Health in Folkestone - October

## S O C I A L                      H E A L T H

### The Elderly

Old People's Clubs continued to provide useful social facilities for the elderly of the district. There were no new Clubs opened during the year and the number remains at 18.

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Meeting Place</u>	<u>Day and Time of Meeting</u>	
Bawburgh	Village Hall	Thursday	2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Braconash	Reading Room	Tuesday	2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Colton	Village Hall	Thursday (alt.)	2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
New Costessey	Scouts Hall	Thursday	2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Old Costessey	Parish Room	Thursday	2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Deopham	Church Room	Tuesday	2.15 - 4.30 p.m.
Easton	Village Hall	Wednesday (alt.)	2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Hethersett	Methodist Chapel	Wednesday	2.30 - 5.00 p.m.
Hingham	Lincoln Hall	Thursday	2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Marlingford	Village Hall	Thursday (alt.)	2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Mulbarton	Wingfield Hall	Wednesday	2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Poringland	Village Hall	Thursday	2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Rockland St.Mary	Margaret Mack Hall	Thursday(alt.)	2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Saxlingham Nethergate	Village Hall	Thursday	2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Shotesham	Village Hall	Thursday (alt.)	2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Surlingham	Parish Hall	Tuesday (alt.)	2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Trowse	Church Room	Thursday	2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Wicklewood	Village Hall	Wednesday	2.30 - 4.30 p.m.

The usual round of parties, outings, pantomime visits and holidays were enjoyed by the ever increasing club membership. Holidays were spent at Caister Holiday Camp, at seaside resorts in other parts of this country and abroad. Although some of these doughty travellers have reached an advanced age, even the most arduous of 'bus outings does nothing to daunt their spirits. At the end of a gruelling day, it is often the escorts who are exhausted rather than the elderly they are there to help.



The Chiropody Service continues to operate and the Meals-on-Wheels Service is expanding its scope more widely every year. All these voluntary services as well as home helps, district nurses and welfare officers, help to keep more old people happily and healthily in their own homes, reducing the number of places needed in local authority hostels and hospitals.

### Hypothermia

There is one aspect of the housing of old people that has given cause for concern and that is the inadequate heating and insulation in much of the property occupied by them. Icy bedrooms may be as lethal to old people as to young infants and it is now realised that many thousands of old people die in severe weather from the effects of cold alone.

All dwellings intended for old people should be well insulated, to prevent serious heat loss and even quite recently built purpose-designed dwellings are defective in this direction. I strongly recommend the immediate provision of ceiling insulation in all properties occupied by old people. This is an improvement as urgent and necessary as the provision of complete modern amenities in the older houses. Economical methods of space heating are, of course, equally essential.

### The Disabled

The District Committee of the Norfolk Association for the Care of the Handicapped continued to provide social services for the seriously disabled people of the district. Parties, outings, Christmas dinners and holidays were all arranged to brighten the lives of those whose normal activities are so restricted by disablement. One feature of this Committee is the inclusion of patients from chronic sick hospitals in the district and from the Cheshire Home in many of their outings.

### Norfolk Cheshire Home, The Grove, East Carleton

The Cheshire Home at East Carleton continued to provide a happy environment for about 24 severely handicapped people, some from Norfolk but several from other parts of the country. Many people from neighbouring parishes take an interest in the residents and voluntary bodies send regular groups of helpers to serve tea in the afternoons and to perform other useful services.

So great is the demand for admission that plans for an extension were drawn up during 1964 and were expected to be carried out in 1965. This extension will increase the accommodation to 30 patients and it is hoped that Group Captain Cheshire will attend the opening ceremony.



There was a second Rally for all the disabled in the County at "The Grove" in June and about 250 attended. Games and sports of all kinds, suitably modified to come within the limited ability of the guests, were arranged in the beautiful grounds.

The admission of holiday patients to give relatives a rest from their care was another service provided by the Home and this was very much appreciated.

Altogether, the siting of the Home in this district is very fortunate, providing a valuable amenity for its own community as well as for the handicapped from other areas.

## C O U N T Y       S E R V I C E S

County Council Child Welfare Centres are held at the following times and places:-

<u>Centre</u>	<u>Where Held</u>	<u>Day of Month</u>	
New Costessey	Scouts Hut, Gunton Lane	3rd. Tuesday	)
New Costessey	Methodist Church	last Tuesday	} Medical Officer attends regularly
Old Costessey	Parish Hall	2nd. Tuesday	
Hethersett	Methodist School Room	3rd. Tuesday	
Hingham	Lincoln Hall	2nd. Wednesday	
Mulbarton	Wingfield Hall	1st. Wednesday	
Poringland	Parish Hall	1st. Tuesday	)
Stoke Holy Cross	Village Hall	3rd. Tuesday	)
Bawburgh	Village Hall	last Wednesday	)
Cringleford	Patteson Club	3rd. Wednesday	)
Kirby Bedon	Parish Room	2nd. Monday	} Medical Officer attends occasional
Morley St. Botolph	Village Hall	last Wednesday	
Rockland St. Mary	Margaret Mack Hall	last Tuesday	
Saxlingham Nethergate	Village Hall	2nd. Tuesday	
Surlingham	Parish Hall	last Thursday	
Shotesham	Trinity Hall	2nd. Wednesday	)
Upper Stoke Holy Cross	St. George's Hall	2nd. Thursday	)
Wicklewood	Village Hall	1st. Friday	)

(All Centres are held from 2 p.m., to 4 p.m.)

## GENERAL WELFARE SERVICES

Headquarters : Local Health Office, Area No. 4,  
Aspland Road, Riverside Road, Norwich, NOR 19S

County Welfare Officers continue to provide general services throughout the district and in addition to Headquarters, there are the following contact points where the public can obtain advice:-

<u>Parish</u>		<u>Welfare Officer attends</u>
Costessey	: C/O Mr. Cox, 108, Norwich Road.	Wednesday - 11.0 a.m. to 12 noon .
Hingham	: C/O Mrs. Rosbrook, Bell Corner.	Monday - 2.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.

#### National Welfare Foods

National Welfare Foods may be obtained from the following:-

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Addresses from where National Welfare Foods are obtainable (Monday to Friday)</u>
Barford	Mrs. Mower, Post Office
New Costessey	Mrs. Dynes, Upper Stafford Avenue
	Mr. Adcock, Kabin Road Stores
Hethersett	Mrs. Thraxton, "Thornley", Gt. Melton Road
Hingham	Mrs. Mann, Market Square
Morley	Miss Allen, Post Office
Mulbarton	Miss Middleton, Post Office
Stoke Holy Cross	Mr. Elsey, Post Office
Trowse	Mr. Parfitt, General Stores
Wicklewood	Mrs. Atkins, Post Office

#### G E N E R A L            S U R V E Y

The health of the district has been satisfactory during the year. The infant mortality rate was lower and the birth rate was higher with a smaller percentage of illegitimacy. The death rate was a little higher but below the national rate.

Infectious disease was much less prevalent and pneumonia in particular, was much less fatal due to the milder winter.

Road accidents, although fewer than in the last 2 years, still took a large toll in death and injury.

New building, both by the Council and by private enterprise, continued apace and much needed improvement was carried out to existing property. Some difficulties were encountered with cesspool drainage and the necessity for expediting main sewerage schemes became even more apparent.

Voluntary service continued to supplement the work of statutory bodies to the great benefit of various members of the community in need.

Conclusion

In conclusion, I should like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their continued interest and support and to express my appreciation of the efficient work done by all members of the Public Health staff.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

IRENE B. M. GREEN

Medical Officer of Health





T H E            A N N U A L            R E P O R T

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year ended

31st. December, 1964

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting the following Annual Report for the year 1964.

Before dealing with the actual work carried out by the Public Health Department, I have to report that during the year the total establishment of Public Health Inspectors remained the same but in June, Mr. L. Skelton one of the Additional Public Health Inspectors, left the Council's service on being appointed to a similar position with the Ashbourne Rural District Council. At the end of the year the Council were still attempting to appoint a replacement. This shortage in the Public Health Inspectors' Staff caused additional work for the remaining Inspectors, especially in overtime for weekend meat inspection.

The summary of inspections given in the next paragraph comprises the bulk of the Public Health Inspectors' work and it will be seen that Housing Improvement Grants and Meat Inspection are by far the larger sections. In addition to the figures given, it should be remembered that practically all complaints and investigations under the Public Cleansing Services and the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, are carried out by staff other than the Public Health Inspectors. In the case of Pest Control, details are shown under that section.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES  
OF THE AREA

Housing	776	Improvement Grants	1092
Public Health Acts	406	Public Cleansing	
Water Supplies	85	Services	240
Drainage	148	Cemeteries	81
Infectious Disease	334	Pest Control	25
Slaughterhouses and		Factories Act	32
Meat Inspection	1028	Animal Boarding	
Caravans	117	Establishments	26
Disinfestation	24	Knacker's Yard	2
Food & Drugs Act &		Petroleum Acts	26
Food Hygiene Regulations	163	Miscellaneous	251
Bakehouses	2	Smoke	19
Noise Abatement	14	Offices, Shops &	
		Railway Premises Act	16

Total : 4907

WATER SUPPLIES

There was no serious shortage of water in the district during the year but several isolated cases caused by individual wells going dry were reported. It was not necessary for the Council to make any special arrangements.

The whole of the district is now covered by a mains supply for which the Norwich Water Authority is responsible in that part of the district coming within the Norwich Statutory Area of Supply. The remainder of the district comes under the control of the Council's Engineer and Surveyor and water is drawn from the Wymondham U.D.C., Headworks and bores at Council Estate Sites.

The mains supplies are the subject of periodical sampling and analysis and during the year no adverse reports were received. The following table gives details of samples taken from private wells in the district, either through high nitrate reports received from the Norfolk County Council Child Welfare Section or as a result of complaints. In most cases where unsatisfactory reports were received it was possible to persuade owners to connect their properties to the public mains and in other cases the necessary work was carried out to render the existing supplies satisfactory. In no case was it necessary to resort to statutory action.

	<u>No. Taken</u>	<u>Fit</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Bacteriological	46	29	17
Chemical and Bacteriological	-	-	-
Chemical	-	-	-
Totals :	<u>46</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>17</u>

## SEWERAGE AND SEWER DITCHES

The responsibility for sewerage schemes rests with the Engineer and Surveyor's Department.

Complaints were received during the year of nuisances from polluted ditches and watercourses but, except for the parish of Saxlingham, it was not possible to improve matters by normal cleansing works. There was also further evidence that in such parishes as Barford, Mulbarton, Swardeston and Swainsthorpe the position was becoming worse in relation to the saturation of the sub-soil on new building estates. The sewerage of such parishes is the only satisfactory remedy.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection and Disposal. The collection of household refuse continued during the year by similar arrangements to previous years, namely, a weekly collection in the parishes of Costessey, Cringleford, Hingham and Trowse Newton and a fortnightly collection elsewhere.

Refuse is collected by the "skep" back door method except in isolated cases where properties are situated a long distance from the highway and in such cases the householder is asked to bring the bin to a convenient place adjacent to the highway.

Each year the concentration of dwellings in certain parishes increases and I must again point out the urgent need for an extension of the weekly collection area. The tendency now is for smaller gardens and this, together with fewer open fires in dwellings and more all electric heating systems, reduces facilities for the disposal of waste by incineration. Trade refuse is mainly collected in conjunction with household refuse but where it is necessary for special collections to be made from the larger factories and business premises, special charges are made. A special service is also laid on during the summer period for the collection of refuse at various points in the river and broads area of the district.

A Salvage Scheme is not operated by the Council as this was thought to be uneconomic some years ago. It is a subject which I think should be seriously considered again in view of the amount of paper etc., which now makes up a larger part of household refuse.

The collection of refuse is carried out by vehicles of the rear-loading type including one continuous rear loader and disposal is by the controlled system at two sites owned by the Council and two smaller sites which are privately owned. No nuisance occurred at the Council controlled tips but owing to the lack of supervision at the privately owned tips, fires have occurred and these have given rise to complaints from nearby residents.



Each year it becomes more difficult to obtain suitable disposal points and it may be necessary in the next few years to consider alternative means of disposal and it may be necessary to consider other methods of disposal with the necessary plant centralised to serve several Local Authority areas.

Night Soil Collection. The Night Soil Collection Services operate in every parish in the district where there is a concentration of properties and no sewers available. Two vehicles carry out a weekly collection mainly during the hours of darkness. Where possible the night soil is disposed of by composting on agricultural land, but this gets less and less each year and it is now necessary to discharge most of it into public sewers. The labour for this undesirable job is often difficult to recruit and it may be necessary soon to consider carrying out the work during the daylight hours. The speeding up of sewerage schemes for the larger villages would greatly assist.

Cesspool Emptying. For the second year running, despite progress with sewerage schemes the total amount of cesspool emptying carried out in the district by the Council's vehicles remained at the same level, due to the fact that whilst there was a reduction in the number of visits and loads removed from private properties there was also a similar increase in the number of visits and loads removed from Council estates and sewage plants. There was also a small increase in the work carried out for a neighbouring authority. Disposal of cesspool contents is mainly by discharge into public sewers.

The time when disposal could take place satisfactorily on agricultural land is rapidly disappearing, due to some extent to the changing nature of farming and the rapid build-up of many villages making it difficult to discharge cesspool contents on to land without causing nuisance. Irrespective of this, the discharge of cesspool contents on to agricultural land has always given risk of infection being carried to animals and man by birds. It is, therefore, perhaps a good thing that Councils are now forced to use sewers for the disposal of cesspool contents.

The following are the details of cesspool emptying work carried out during the year:-

				<u>Visits</u>	<u>Loads Removed</u>
(a)	Private	...	...	2442	3369
(b)	Council, Estates and Sewage Plants	...	...	729	2039
(c)	Outside District	...	...	70	85
				—	—
Totals				: 3241	5493
				—	—



## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The Council is the responsible Authority for enforcing certain provisions of this Act but employ staff only to deal with private properties, leaving agricultural properties to be dealt with by the occupiers themselves either with direct labour or under contract. At the same time the Council is the responsible authority for seeing that occupiers of all types of premises deal satisfactorily with vermin infestation and are empowered to take statutory action. The Council's full-time Vermin Destroyer deals with all notifications of infestations. He also surveys as far as is possible the whole of the district during the course of each year. The service is free except for business premises.

The following figures show the total number of complaints and properties surveyed during the course of the year and whilst the presence of vermin persists, not only in this district but generally speaking over the whole country, at a higher level than is desirable, there was no evidence of any large scale infestation in the district.

Number of properties inspected :

(a)	as a result of notification	...	...	466
(b)	By survey under the Act	...	...	2317

Number of inspections and re-inspections ... .. 3650

Number of properties treated ... .. 1354

## HOUSING

Slum Clearance. There was no large scale slum clearance survey during the year but individual sub-standard properties still come to the notice of the department during the course of normal inspections and applications for Council houses. 19 Demolition Orders were made and 8 Undertakings not to re-let properties were accepted.

The full figures in connection with slum clearance are to be found in the report of the Medical Officer of Health from which it will be seen that there are still 151 properties standing which are the subject of Demolition Orders and 69 of these were still occupied at the end of the year. Added to this, there were still 112 properties standing which were the subject of Undertakings not to re-let and of these 63 were still occupied. It is accepted that in the case of elderly tenants it is very often wise to allow them to remain in condemned properties provided they are reasonably wind and watertight.

It is the Council's policy to give occupiers of condemned dwellings priority for rehousing, but despite this, many such tenants prefer to remain in the old properties rather than pay the much higher rents required for Council dwellings.

Housing Improvement Grants. The future general standard of houses must be connected with the new legislation under the Housing Act, 1964 which includes the compulsory improvement of dwellings by the provision of standard amenities. This part of the new Act puts a duty on to Local Authorities to arrange for the inspection of their areas with a view to identifying areas suitable for comprehensive improvement. It has yet to be seen how best such schemes can be carried out in rural areas, or indeed if such improvement schemes are workable in a rural district.

The Council have always encouraged improvement grant applications for individual privately owned properties and are amongst the foremost in the country for work carried out under this heading.

During the year there was an increase in the applications approved for 'Standard' grants but a small decrease in the number of 'Discretionary' grant applications approved, the total being 82 applications approved concerning 92 units of accommodation of which the larger proportion refer to owner/occupied dwellings.

Included in the new legislation, 'Standard' grants became available up to a maximum of £350 per unit of accommodation, but unfortunately no increase is allowed to the ceiling of £400 for 'Discretionary' grants. Whilst in some respects this alteration may be desirable, I am of opinion that it must result in a greater number of houses being provided only with 'Standard' amenities without other improvements and this will result in a lowering in the overall standard of fitness for improved dwellings. It is not intended under the Act for Local Authorities to insist on a higher general standard for properties which are the subject of 'Standard' grants than was the case when the maximum grant was at a much lower level. The fact that there is now only £50 difference between the 'ceiling' for both grants will also discourage owners from agreeing to the higher standard necessary for 'Discretionary' grants.

The following gives details of applications received:-

	<u>'Standard'</u>	<u>'Discretionary'</u>	<u>Total</u>
Applications received ...	53	36	89
Units concerned ...	57	42	99
Applications approved ...	45	37	82
Units concerned ...	48	44	92
Owner/Occupier dwellings..	32	27	59
Dwellings let ...	16	17	33
Total amount of grants approved ...	£7,957	£14,434	£22,391

- (1 'Discretionary' grant transferred to 'Standard' grant)
- (1 'Discretionary' grant withdrawn)
- (2 'Standard' grants withdrawn)
- (2 'Standard' grants transferred to 'Discretionary' grants.)

## CARAVAN SITES & CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

1964 can be termed as the year when the greatest strides so far were made towards improving the caravan problem in the parish of Costessey. Costessey is specifically mentioned because the rest of the district provides no serious problem.

A scheme for 28 caravan standings on a site which would be provided with all necessary amenities was finally agreed and received Ministry approval in principle subject to a final decision as to contract prices, and at the end of the year the Council was awaiting final word from the Ministry so that a starting date could be fixed. Whilst all this was going on there was a further increase in the number of caravans on unauthorised sites, but the Council decided that legal action should be deferred until there was at least one alternative site available.

The sites in the district licensed for residential caravans were one at Mulbarton for 14 caravans, one at Wramplingham for 6 caravans and one at Costessey for 12 caravans - all privately owned.

## FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955 FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

During the year 163 re-inspections of food premises were made. Whilst in some cases it was necessary to warn shopkeepers and caterers where unsatisfactory conditions existed, it was not necessary to take any statutory action and the general standard remained good. Attention was again focused on the catering arrangements at the Royal Norfolk Show, mention of which is made in the report of the Medical Officer of Health. The general standard of hygiene steadily improves and it is pleasing to be able to report on the almost 100% co-operation by all concerned in the trade and the desire of the Officers and Committee of the Royal Norfolk Agricultural Association to maintain the highest standard possible.

I am proud to think that in the Forehoe and Henstead Rural District special efforts have resulted in a high standard for outside catering and one which, with a little trouble and forethought by all concerned can be attained nation wide. It must be remembered however, that continued vigilance from year to year is necessary, especially for short term outside catering.

## PETROLEUM REGULATIONS

120 licences were issued for the storage of petroleum spirit and/or mixtures, either at garages for re-sale or at private premises for use in occupiers' own vehicles and not for re-sale. Two premises were licensed for the storage of inflammable materials used in manufacturing processes and it was necessary, particularly in one case, to ask for special structural works to be carried out.

All new installations are inspected and tested for compliance with the Regulations.



FACTORIES ACTS, 1948 and 1961

The following tabulated details are in accordance with the Return required by the Ministry:-

<u>Premises</u>	<u>Number on Register</u>	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Written Notices</u>	<u>Occupiers Prosecuted</u>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	2	5	1	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority	130	74	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority	3	3	-	-
Totals :	135	82	1	-

Cases in which defects were found

	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
<u>Sanitary Conveniences, Section 7</u>		
(a) Insufficient	2	2
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-
	2	2

Outwork

<u>Nature of work</u>	<u>No. of outworkers in August list required by Sec.110</u>	<u>No.of instances of work in un-wholesome premises</u>
Wearing apparel - making etc.	7	-
Brush making	1	-
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, etc.	5	-
	13	-



## CEMETERIES.

The outside management of cemeteries at Trowse Newton and Hingham is the responsibility of the Public Health Department. Two grave diggers are employed on a part-time basis. General maintenance at the Hingham Cemetery is carried out by a part-time Caretaker, whilst at Trowse the Council's own workmen do the necessary work. The Council is also responsible for the allocation of plots, collection of fees and the supervision of gravestone erections.

## CENTRAL DEPOT

The organisation concerned with the general supervision of the Central Depot at Ketteringham continued satisfactorily during the year and where found necessary improvements were made to fit in with the requirements of the departments concerned.

One of the main functions of the Depot is to provide a satisfactory service and repair workshop for all Council vehicles. The two motor mechanics were able to carry out this work without any serious delays and the general condition of all vehicles was satisfactory, taking into consideration age and use.

The Public Health Foreman supervises all public cleansing services and the repair of vehicles, together with the issue of petrol and oil. In addition to the bulk storage of petrol, it was decided to install bulk storage facilities for diesel and lubricating oils.

With the gradual increase in the number of Council vehicles, the main garage is almost full and it is expected that additional storage space will soon have to be provided for such things as salvage and other materials which are best kept under cover.

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION

The figures which follow in this section show that the total number of animals slaughtered and inspected is 3338 less than in the previous year. The detailed analysis of these figures show that this decrease is mainly due to the reduction in the number of cows and pigs slaughtered, which to some extent was offset by an increase in the number of cattle (excluding cows) and sheep slaughtered. The statistics for condemned meat remained about the same. Comment can again be confined to the almost complete absence of Tuberculosis and the incidence of Cysticercosis remaining at about the same level as for the previous year.

The bulk of meat inspection was carried out by the Council's Authorised Officer under the supervision of the Public Health Inspectors and all carcasses slaughtered were examined in accordance with the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963 which also included the marking of those found fit for human consumption. Weekend killing and after normal hours on other days continued and there appears to be no further attempt on the part of the Ministry to improve the position. All meat condemned was disposed of satisfactorily, mainly at the plant adjacent to the Norwich Corporation Abattoir at Harford.

SUMMARY OF ANIMALS KILLED AND INSPECTED AND DETAILS OF CARCASES AND PARTS CONDEMNED

<u>Cattle</u> (excluding cows)	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	-	<u>Total</u>
4187	1333	76	2822	30,648		39,066

STATISTICS OF MEAT CONDEMNED AS REQUIRED BY THE MINISTRY

<u>All diseases</u> <u>Ex. Tuberculosis</u> <u>and Cysticerchi</u>	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u> <u>&amp; Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
Whole carcases condemned	4	3	7	5	55
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1263	908	4	416	3868
Percentage of number inspected, affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerchi	30.16%	68.11%	5.26%	14.74%	12.62%

Tuberculosis only

Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	404
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	1.32%

Cysticercosis

Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	26	6	-	16	-
Carcases treated by refrigeration	26	6	-	-	-
Generalised and condemned	1	-	-	-	-

Details of meat condemned:-

BEEF

1	Steer	(Septicaemia)	1	Cow	(Septicaemia)
1	Steer	(Generalised Cysticercus Bovis)	1	Cow	(Emaciation)
1	Steer	(Emaciation)	1	Cow	(bi-lateral Pyelonephritis)
1	Steer	(Lead poisoning)			

VEAL

2	Calves	(Oedema)	1	Calf	(Septic Pericarditis)
1	Calf	(Immaturity)	1	Calf	(Septicaemia)
1	Calf	(Umbilical Pyaemia)	1	Calf	(Abnormal Odour)

PORK

14	Pigs	(Oedema)	3	Sows	(Oedema)
8	Pigs	(Fevered)	2	Sows	(Pyelonephritis)
8	Pigs	(Septicaemia)	2	Sows	(Pyaemia)
4	Pigs	(Pyaemia)	2	Sows	(Septicaemia)
3	Pigs	(Emaciation)			
3	Pigs	(Moribund)			
2	Pigs	(Severe Bruising)			
1	Pig	(Acute Septic Pneumonia)			
1	Pig	(Gangrenous)			
1	Pig	(Swine Fever)			
1	Pig	(Multiple Abscesses)			

MUTTON

1	Sheep	(Emaciation)	1	Lamb	(Septic Arthritis)	
1	Sheep	(Septicaemia)				
1	Sheep	(Oedema)				
1	Sheep	(Septic Enteritis)				
			Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Total weight of carcasses condemned:			4	16	0	8
Total weight of parts of carcasses and offal condemned			: 24	16	3	14

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TOTAL WEIGHT CONDEMNED : 29      12      3      22

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## KNACKER'S YARD

There is one licensed Knacker's Yard in the district. During the year the premises were visited and no condition found to give cause for serious complaint. On several occasions the premises were visited in conjunction with Anthrax notifications and with the co-operation of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and Police personnel, destruction of carcasses and disinfection were carried out satisfactorily.

## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The object of this Act is to set standards of health, welfare and safety of employees in office, shop and railway premises.

Enforcement of the Act is the joint responsibility of H. M. Factory Inspectorate and Local Authorities, whilst the Fire Service is responsible for certain sections falling within their province.

Certain sections of the Act, including the requirement to register premises, were brought into force on 1st. May, 1964 whilst most of the main provisions became operative from 1st. August, 1964.

Detailed Regulations under the Act and Ministry Circulars governing interpretation and guidance have been issued in respect of certain sections.

In view of the detailed inspections required to advise owners of the requirements of the Act and to ensure compliance with the various Regulations, a considerable amount of time must be spent in each premises visited. In addition to this, extra clerical work is involved in maintaining the necessary records, quarterly Accident Returns and Annual Returns to the Ministry of Labour. Three reports concerning dangerous machinery were forwarded to H.M. Deputy Superintendent of Factories. These I am pleased to report, were favourably received.

The following table is an abstract of the details of the first Annual Report submitted to the Ministry:-

<u>Registrations and General Inspections</u>			
<u>Class of premises</u>	<u>Premises Registered during the year</u>	<u>Total number Registered during year</u>	<u>Premises Registered receiving general inspection during year</u>
Offices	16	16	1
Retail shops	28	28	1
Wholesale shops, warehouses	1	1	-
Catering establishments open to public, canteens	2	2	-
Fuel storage depots	2	2	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	49	49	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>



Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises : 10

Persons Employed in Registered Premises by Workplace

<u>Class of workplace</u>	<u>Number of persons employed</u>		
Offices	106		
Retail shops	102		
Wholesale departments, warehouses	9		
Catering establishments open to public	3		
Canteens	2		
Fuel storage depots	14		
	<u>236</u>	<u>Males</u> 145	<u>Females</u> 91

No applications for exemption from the requirements relating to space, temperature, sanitary conveniences or washing facilities were received and no accidents were notified.

GENERAL

No specific mention is made in this report of such matters as complaints connected with specialised farming and other industries but these continue to flow into the Public Health Department Office. The Medical Officer of Health has commented on the 'town dweller' acclimatising himself to country surroundings, but there is also the other side of the question, namely, the setting up of new industries in close proximity to residential areas and when nuisance occurs there is often very little which can be done to improve matters other than complete closure, owing to the nature of the industry requiring special working methods for the satisfactory production of the end 'goods'.

There should be a much closer co-operation between Planning and Public Health Departments, and this should extend to other matters concerning public health such as the development of land for new estates. Surely evidence of unsatisfactory subsoil and natural drainage should prohibit building until sewers are available. Much of the time of the public health department is taken up with complaints and nuisances arising from these matters.

In conclusion I must express my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their continued support and especially to the members of my staff for their ready co-operation and efficient performance of their duties.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

GEOFFREY A. J. BROWNE, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

# R E P O R T

## OF THE

### ENGINEER & SURVEYOR

FOR THE YEAR 1964

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### W A T E R      S U P P L Y

Mains water supply is available in all 42 parishes in the Rural District. The Norwich Corporation is the Statutory Water Undertaker for 26 parishes and the Council is Undertaker for the remainder.

The estimated population in the Council's Water Supply Area was 7353 at December, 1964.

Mains water is available to 6369 and it is estimated that 4934 persons are actually supplied with water from the Council's mains.

#### NEWTON FLOTMAN AND FLORDON

The interim supply arrangement whereby water is derived from the former housing site borehole at Station Road, Newton Flotman, has been satisfactorily maintained. Owing to the difficulties which the Norwich Corporation continued to experience in maintaining supplies to their own area, it has not yet been possible to make any arrangements to obtain a bulk supply from that authority for Newton Flotman and Flordon.

#### WATER MAIN EXTENSIONS

During the year the Norwich Corporation, under the terms of guarantee agreements with the Council, extended their mains to serve a group of 8 dwellings at Swardeston Common.

In addition, an extension was made for the Council's main in Dereham Road, Hingham, to serve a new private housing estate of 60 dwellings.

## S E W E R A G E

COSTESSEY: Section 4 This scheme has now been completed. It comprised gravity sewers in the New Costessey area, a pumping station at Gunton Lane to deliver the flow to the existing sewer at Grove Avenue, and alterations to the sewage disposal works. The pumping station is situated in the valley of the River Wensum from which the Norwich Corporation draws its water supply. In order that it can function at all times it has its own emergency generator which will operate in the event of a mains failure. By the end of the year 900 properties had been connected to the new sewers.

PORINGLAND: Section 4 A tender has been accepted for this scheme which provides for the construction of gravity sewers, a small ejector station and rising main at Upper Stoke Holy Cross, the construction of a new rising main between that pumping station and Poringland cross roads, the installation of larger capacity pumps at Octagon Farm Pumping Station and additions to the sewage disposal works at Dove Lane.

NEWTON FLOTMAN, FLORDON AND SAXLINGHAM: Tenders were invited in December for the sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for these three parishes.

STOKE HOLY CROSS: The Stoke Holy Cross sewerage and sewage disposal scheme has been submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for approval.

### PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, SECTION 47 : CLOSET CONVERSION SCHEMES

Work started this year on Costessey Closet Conversion Scheme, Contract 2, comprising some 30 properties in the area served by new sewers.

### HOUSING SITE SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

(a) Mill View, Barnham Broom. A contract has been let for the enlargement of the disposal works to accommodate 4 proposed new houses.

(b) Top Row, Wrenningham. To serve a further 6 new houses at River View, the disposal works have been extended.

(c) Church View, Welborne. Sewers and a sewage disposal works were constructed this year to serve this new housing site.

### COSTESSEY STREET LIGHTING

A contract has been let for Costessey Street Lighting Scheme 4. This comprises the erection of some 240 lamps and when it is completed all streets in the parish which are made up and taken over by the Highway Authority will be provided with lighting.



## NEW BUILDING

The pace of building work continued in 1964 and there was a substantial increase in the number of plans deposited for Town Planning permission or Building Byelaw approval compared with 1963, the figures being:-

1964 : 1263                      1963 : 1054

Some 305 private houses and 54 council houses were completed in 1964 and at the end of the year 220 private houses were under construction.

Searches made under the Land Charges Act, 1925, totalled 1028.

Appeals to the Minister of Housing and Local Government against the Council's refusal of Planning Permission numbered 12 and were disposed of as follows:-

<u>Proposals</u>	<u>Appeals</u>	<u>Dismissed</u>	<u>Allowed</u>
Residential Development	9	7	2
Advertisements	2	1	1
Caravan Sites	1		1
<hr/>			
Totals :	12	8	4
<hr/>			

Supervision and inspection of new building work for byelaw purposes and connections to new sewers has continued satisfactorily despite the increase.

Excellent co-operation with Building Contractors has been maintained during the year and no infringements occurred which necessitated formal action.

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WILLIAM A. JONES, A.M.I.S.E., M.R.S.H.

Engineer and Surveyor

# - WATER SUPPLIES -

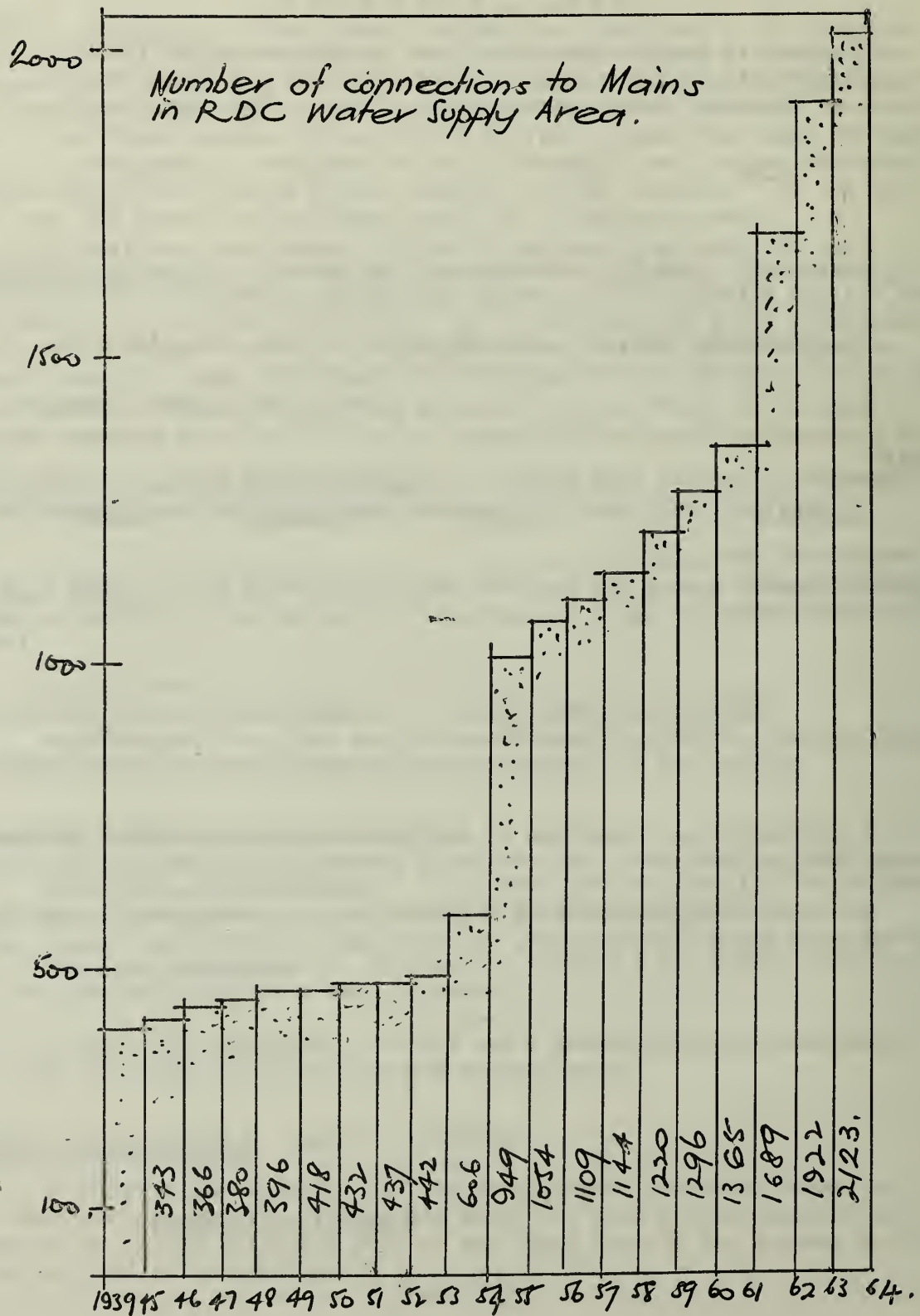


FIG. 1 -

PROPERTIES CONNECTED TO SEWERS  
(INCLUDING SEWERS DISCHARGING TO COUNCIL  
HOUSING SITE DISPOSAL WORKS.)

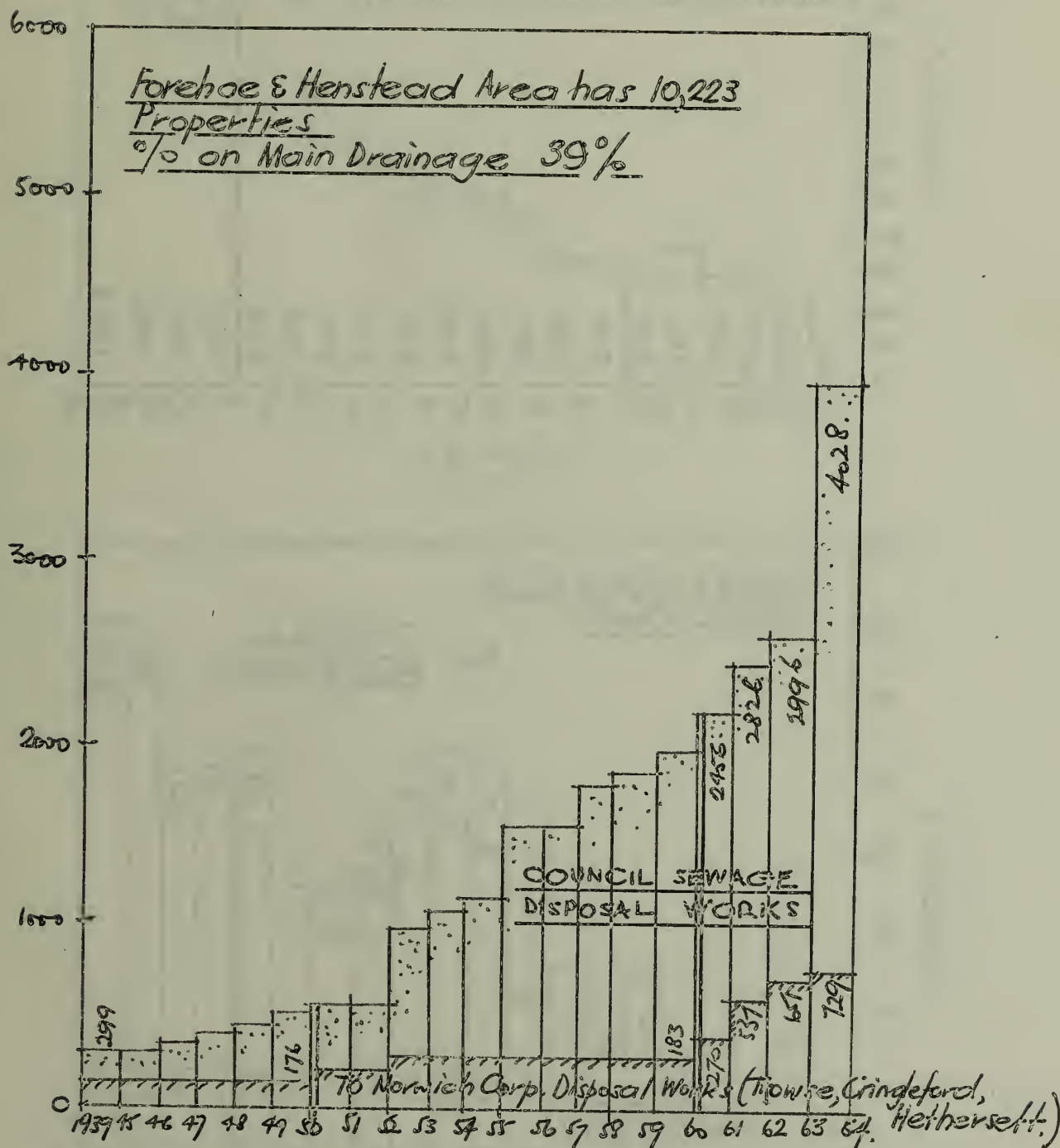


FIG. 2.

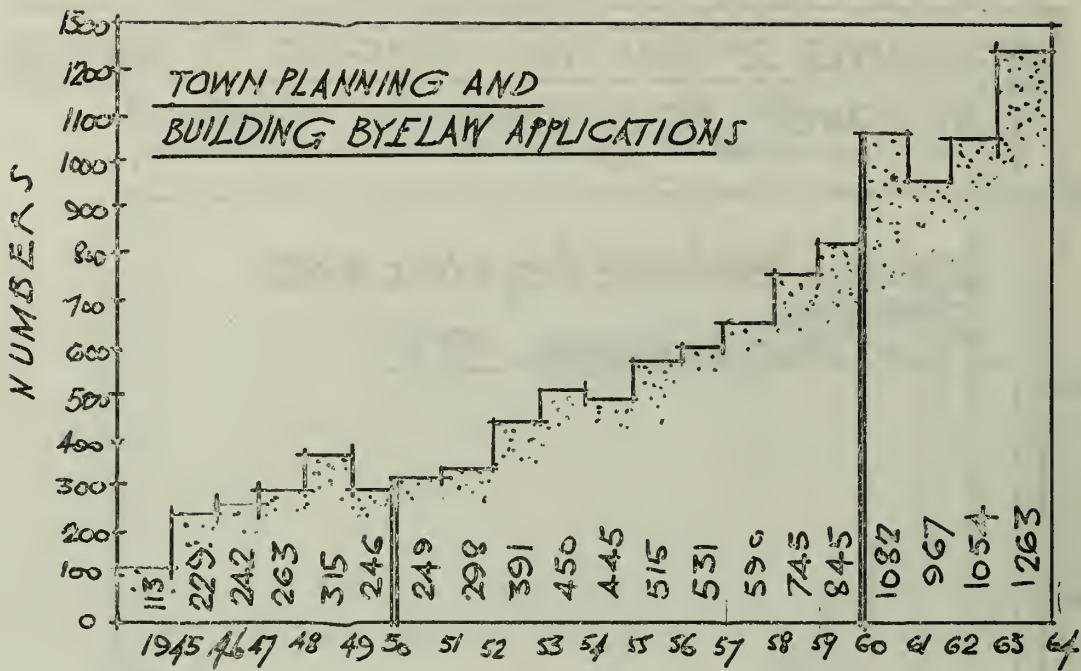


FIG - 3.

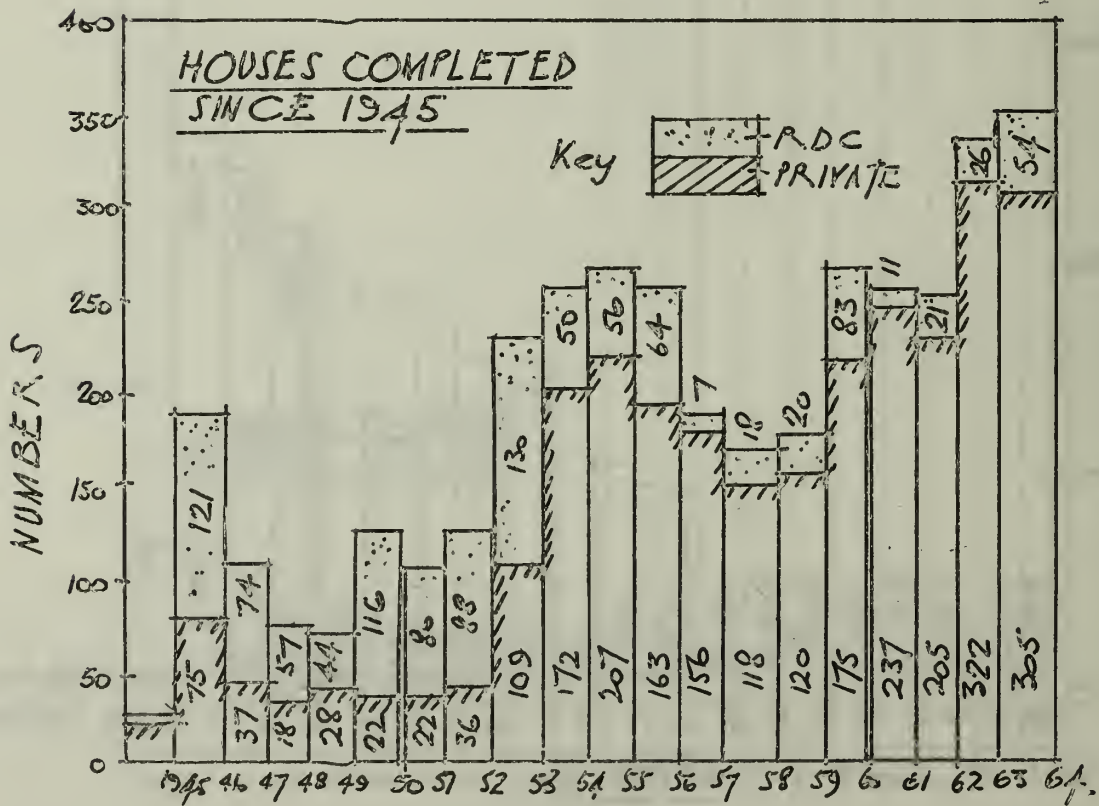


FIG - 4.



PROPERTIES CONNECTED TO SEWERS  
(INCLUDING SEWERS DISCHARGING TO COUNCIL  
HOUSING SITE DISPOSAL WORKS.)

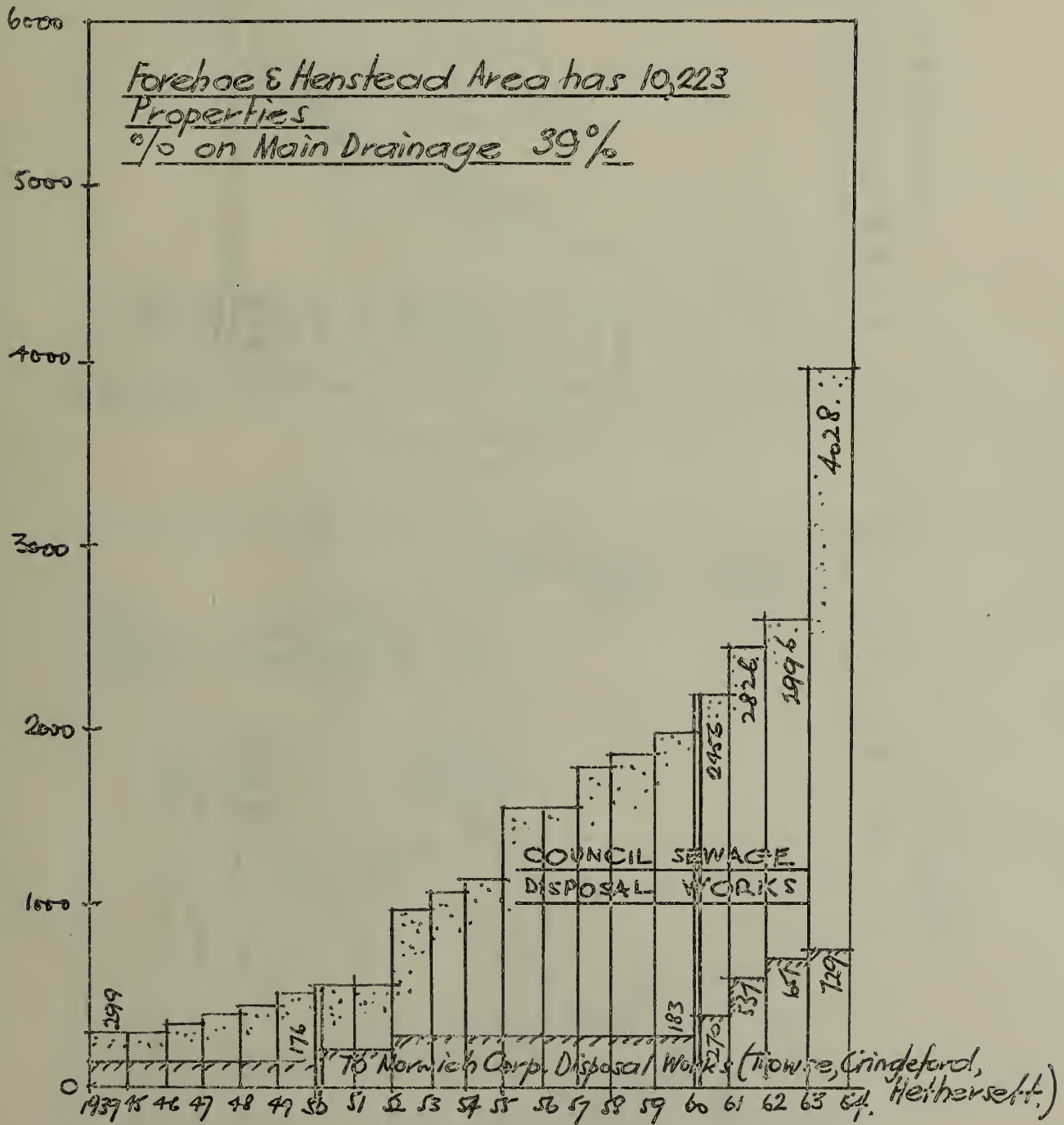


FIG. 2.

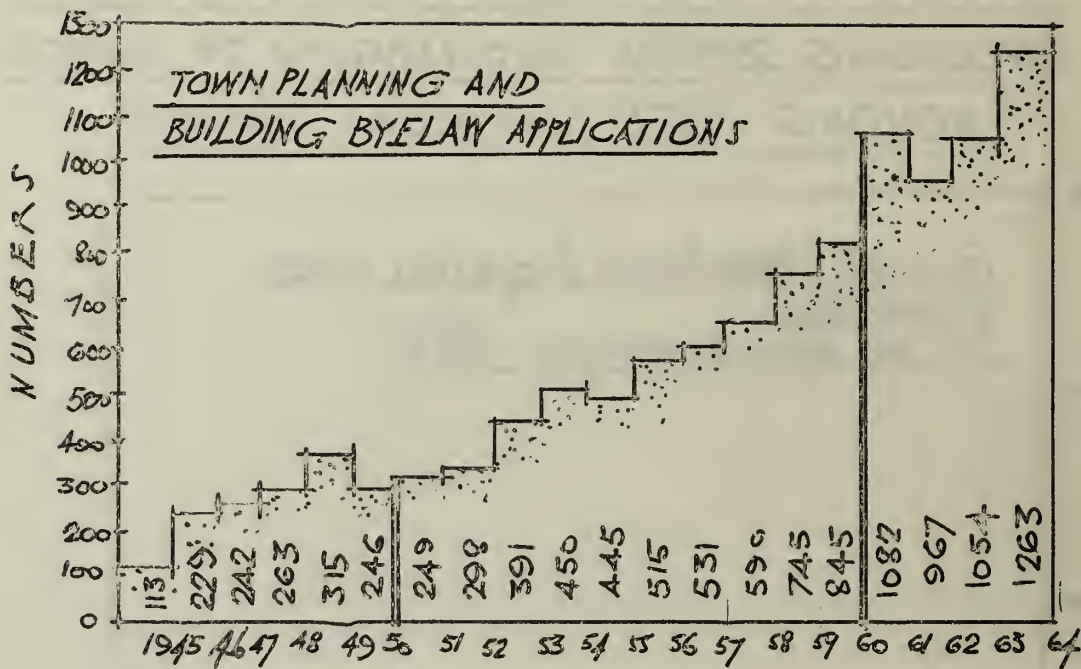


FIG - 3.

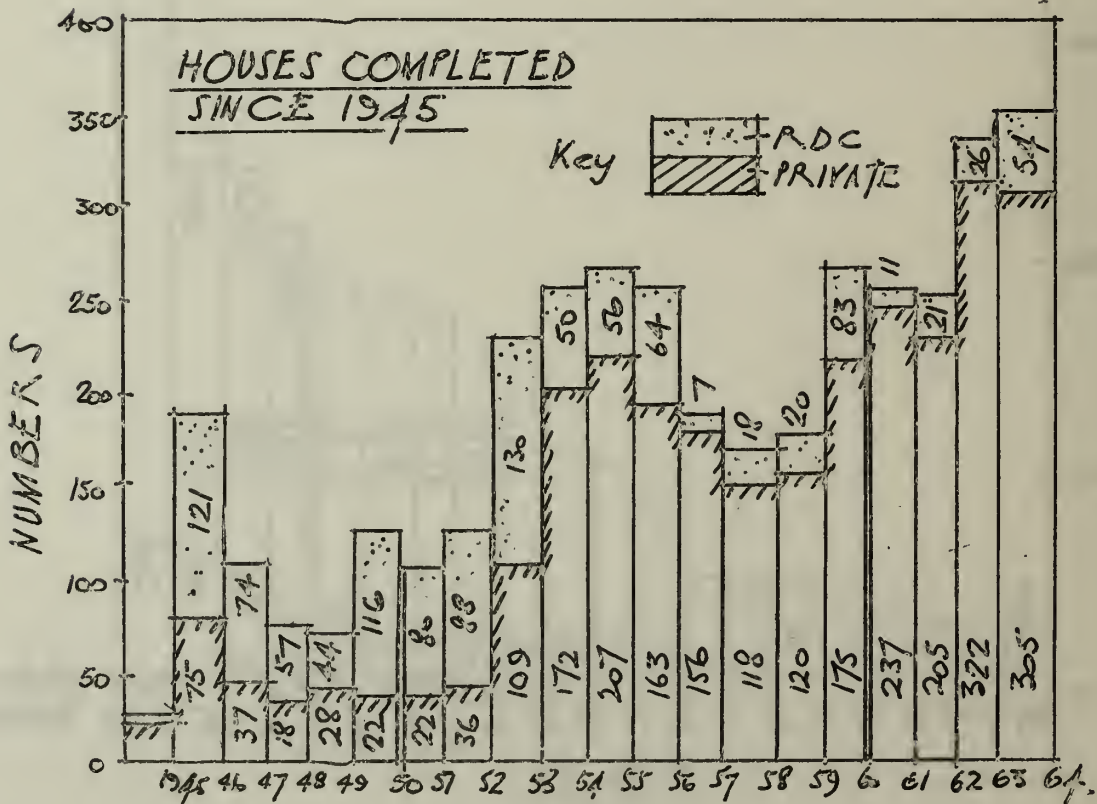


FIG - 4.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Mr. F. W. Lester (Chairman)  
Mr. E. C. Foulger (Vice-Chairman)

Mr. A. M. Blake  
Mr. J. L. Brighton  
Mrs. H. M. Brooks  
Mr. G. H. Brown  
Mrs. V. I. J. Bullen  
Mr. D. W. Cherry  
Mr. B. A. Cook  
Mr. L. F. Cook  
Mr. H. G. Cooke  
Mr. S. G. Dommett  
Mr. J. F. S. Drewry  
Mr. E. A. Ellis  
Mr. H. Folwell  
Mr. C. Gosling  
Mr. E. B. Gowing  
Mr. J. C. F. Harrison  
Mr. R. M. MacFarlaine  
Vice-Admiral Sir Edward Evans-Lombe  
Mr. W. J. Matthews  
Rev. D. P. Maurice  
Mr. B. F. Moore  
Rev. H. W. Paine  
Mr. G. L. Peacock  
Mr. H. C. Pye  
Mr. F. R. Rollings  
Mr. E. P. Stone  
Dr. J. S. Stuart  
Miss R. M. Taylor  
Mr. C. J. Utting  
Mr. F. C. Utting  
Mr. F. G. Waters  
Mr. J. T. Woods

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